

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Li Zhang
U.S. National Phase of
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/US98/12823
Int'l Filing Date: 19 June 1998 (19.06.98)
Priority Date: 20 June 1997 (20.06.97)
Docket Number: IOLL-281PC (56246)
Title: FLUID PURIFICATION DEVICES AND METHODS
EMPLOYING DEIONIZATION FOLLOWED BY IONIZATION
FOLLOWED BY DEIONIZATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be made to the above application prior to examination on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as originally filed in the PCT application as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for removing both (i) ionizable and/or ionized carbon compounds and (ii) non-ionized and/or non-ionizable carbon compounds from water comprising the steps of

(a) processing a first stream of the water with a first removal apparatus for removing from the water ionized and/or ionizable carbon compounds, wherein at least some of such ionized and/or ionizable carbon compounds are susceptible to conversion to [from the water to produce a first product stream;

(b) ~~contacting the first product stream with an agent for converting~~ non-ionized and/or non-ionizable carbon compounds [into] by step (b) below, to produce a first product stream containing a smaller concentration of ionized and/or ionizable carbon compounds [to form a second product] than the first stream;